

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Inakoshi (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,604).

Claims 3-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inakoshi in view of Li et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,631,496).

Claims 1, 19 and 20 are amended, and, thus, claims 1-20 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added in this Amendment. The foregoing rejections are hereby traversed.

REJECTIONS

The Examiner maintains from the previous Office Action the rejection of claims 1, 2, 19 and 20 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Inakoshi (US Patent No. 5,933,604).

The Examiner also maintains from the previous Office Action the rejection of claims 3-18 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inakoshi and Li (US Patent No. 6,631,496).

Page 6 of the Office Action is the Response to Arguments, in which the Examiner provides that the previous arguments have not been persuasive.

The independent claims are 1, 19 and 20, which are anticipatorily rejected over Inakoshi. Independent claims 1, 19, and 20 are amended to clarify the patentably distinguishing features of the claimed present invention over Inakoshi by replacing the claimed recitation, "the state of references" with "the state of references by a user." This amendment is supported by the description of the preferred embodiments on page 10, lines 6-10 of the present Application, "Thereafter, when the user clicks a registration button displayed on the monitor 9, browser 21 stores the name selected by the user and the URL with relating them each other," and on page 12, lines 14-16, "Monitoring section 23 monitors the state of a user referring to Web sites with using browser 21." Support for the claim amendments can also be found, for example, on page 12, line 5 to page 14, line 7; and FIGS. 2 and 5, and 7C, of the

present Application.

Accordingly, in view of the claim amendments, Inakoshi (as well as Li) fails to anticipate the claimed present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 19 and 20, as follows: The Office Action rejection relies on Inakoshi, column 2, lines 5-9 (rejection rationale for claims 1, 19 and 20 on page 2, and Response to Arguments spanning pages 6-7, of the Office Action). Inakoshi, column 2, lines 5-9, discloses, "the monitoring unit monitors the state of a resource on a communication network based on requests from users." Inakoshi, column 2, lines 5-9 clearly indicates that Inakoshi monitors "the state of a resource on a communication network." In contrast to Inakoshi, it has been clarified by the current claim amendments that the claimed present invention provides, "***monitoring the state of references by a user***" (emphasis added). Li discusses a system for personalizing, organizing, and managing web information (Abstract, and FIG. 19 as relied upon by the Examiner to reject dependent claims 2-18), but fails to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's, "***monitoring the state of references by a user*** to Web sites; and ... updating the contents of said address list according to the state of references by a user monitored by said monitoring section." Therefore, clearly the claimed present invention differs from Inakoshi and Li, because Inakoshi and Li fail to disclose or suggest every claim element set forth in independent claims 1, 19 and 20 (see generally, MPEP 2131).

More particularly, the claimed present invention provides, "a monitoring section ***monitoring the state of references by a user to Web sites***," in which ***a reference can be a connection or access to a web site by a user*** (e.g., page 12, lines 13-19, "That is, monitoring section 23 monitors URLs to which browser 21 tries to establish a connection, and confirms the result of trial (success or failure of connection)"). However, in Inakoshi, the monitoring unit 1 accesses a resource (web site) periodically, ***when requested by a user to be monitored***, and checks the state of the web site, when it is seen that the web site has been updated, the fact that there has been a change in the state of the resource is sent to the output unit (column 2, lines 18-25, 42-47, 52-58 and column 3, lines 24-39). Therefore, Inakoshi allows a user to request the monitoring unit 1 to monitor a state of a resource on a network (column 2, lines 10-25), which differs from the claimed present invention's, "***monitoring the state of references by a user to Web sites***" that have been registered by a user, in which ***a reference can be a connection or access to a web site by the user***.

Also, the Examiner, in rejecting dependent claim 2 (page 2 of the Office Action) and in Response to Arguments, on page 6 of the Office Action, relies on Inakoshi's FIG. 19, element 60, for showing a list of links as the claimed present invention's, "an address list containing addresses of Web sites." However, Inakoshi provides a hash table 81 and an HTML document 60 that correspond to Inakoshi's request to monitor a destination URL, and a request to report to a notification destination URL, respectively (column 12, line 66 to column 14, line 33, and FIGS. 13-19 concerning monitoring agent and notifying agent processes). Inakoshi, column 15, lines 50-56, discloses, "the HTML agent 102 adds the monitoring destination URL in which updating occurred to the link list inside the HTML document in which the updated list display URL is located, and creates the new HTML document 60." Inakoshi, column 14, lines 34-38, discloses, "the HTML document 60 has a list of updated URL as a link list. The HTML document 60 link list is empty at the time of the monitoring request, but updated URLs are added one at a time by the report agent 57." In contrast to Inakoshi, the claimed present invention provides, "**monitoring the state of references by a user to Web sites**" that have been registered by a user, in which a **reference can be a connection or access to a web site by the user**, and "updating the contents of said address list according to the **state of references by a user** monitored by said monitoring section" (e.g., amended claim 1, emphasis added) (e.g., page 12, lines 13-19, "That is, monitoring section 23 monitors URLs to which browser 21 tries to establish a connection, and confirms the result of trial (success or failure of connection)").

Dependent claims 3-18 (depending, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1) recite patentably distinguishing features of their own, and/or, further, are at least patentably distinguishing due to their dependencies from independent claim 1.

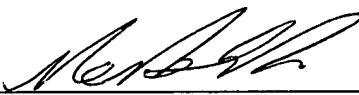
In view of the claim amendments and the remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of pending claims and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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